Serial No.: **09/632,149**
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during prosecution and, therefore, suggested that examination of the application be reopened. Accordingly, Applicant invites the reopening of examination and consideration of the remarks and amendments provided herein.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees, including extension fees, to Deposit Account 06 -1300 (Order No.: A-59553-2/RFT/AXG).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 13 and 22 as follows.

13. **(Once Amended)** A method of alleviating the degeneration of ocular cells, said method comprising directly contacting an ocular cell in situ with an exogenous nucleic acid under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding a protein associated with said ocular disease, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell.

22. **(Once Amended)** A method of alleviating the degeneration of ocular cells, said method comprising directly contacting an ocular cell in situ with an exogenous nucleic acid under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding a protein associated with said ocular disease, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell, wherein said disease is lysosomal storage disease.

Please add new claims 23 and 24 as follows.

23. **(New)** A method of alleviating an ocular wound after surgery, said method comprising directly contacting an exogenous nucleic acid and an ocular cell *in situ* under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid by said ocular cell, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular tissue.

24. **(New)** A method of alleviating an ocular wound, said method comprising directly contacting an exogenous nucleic acid and an ocular cell *in situ* under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid by said ocular cell, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding